



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/486,706	06/26/2000	ALWIN TIMMERMANN	1247-0861-3V	9778	
29074	7590 05/28/2004	EXAMINER			
VISTEON	HOFER GILSON & LIC	ONTE	STRIMBU, C	GREGORY J	
PO BOX 1039		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
CHICAGO, IL 60610			3634		
			DATE MAIL ED: 05/28/200	4	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary  -The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address—relicted for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime action.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime action.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime action.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime action.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime action.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime of the communication.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime of the communication.  If the proof to epity sacrided above is the sometime of the communication.  Faller to really while the set for otheroded proof to reply wit. by fallers, cause the application of bord advanced and action as a second and action as a second action and action and action as a second action and action action and action action and action a		A	N-		7
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Responsive to communication(s) filed on @9 March 2004.   2a	THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICAT  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communica  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) day  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, b  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after th	FION. CFR 1.136(a). In no ever tion. s, a reply within the statuly period will apply and will y statute, cause the applic	nt, however, may a reply be ti lory minimum of thirty (30) da expire SIX (6) MONTHS fron cation to become ABANDON!	imely filed  lys will be considered timely.  In the mailing date of this com  ED (35 U.S.C. & 133)	nmunication.
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Although the examiner does not necessarily agree with the applicant's assertions, upon further review of the application, the examiner has determined that the following rejection should be made in lieu of the previous rejection.

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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Recitations such as "the rigid double-shell box structure is more towards the interior of the vehicle" on lines 2-3 of claim 12 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear if the applicant is claiming the subcombination of a support assembly or the combination of the support assembly and the vehicle. The preamble of claim 1 implies the subcombination while the positive recitation of the vehicle on lines 2-3 of claim 12 implies the combination. Recitations such as "edge portions" on line 3 of claim 14 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear what element of the invention includes the edge portions the applicant is referring to. Recitations such as "the vehicle" on line 2 of claim 15 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear how the outer panel is to be mounted to vehicle when it appears that the outer panel is to be mounted to the door. Recitations such as "an interior" on line 2 of claim 17 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear if the applicant is referring to the interior set forth above or is attempting to set forth another interior in addition to the one set forth above. Recitations such as "jointly fixed" on line 2 of claim 19 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear to what element of the invention the first wall is fixed. Recitations such as "the door window" on line 11 of claim 23 render the claims indefinite because they lack antecedent basis

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 23-25, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Basson et al. in view of Renner et al. Basson et al., in figure 3A, discloses a component support assembly for a vehicle door, comprising a rigid double-shell box structure having a first wall 201 facing an interior of the vehicle and a second wall 203 facing an exterior of the vehicle, the second wall having at least first and second hollows (not numbered, but shown in figure 3A) separated by a separating member (not numbered, but shown in figure 3A), the first wall being connected to said second wall thereby forming an enclosed volume with the first hollow of the second wall and a plurality of vehicle door components 130 (see figure 3) and 110 directly mounted to the first wall so as to be located within the enclosed volume and so as to independently supported by the rigid double shell box structure, an outer panel 2, an interior lining 202 and wherein the vehicle door component 110 comprises a window lifter. Basson et al. is silent concerning a curved shape.

However, Renner et al. discloses a vehicle door comprising a window panel 8 having a curved shape which substantially corresponds to a curved shape of an inner panel 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Basson et al. with a curved shape, as taught by Renner et al., to improve the aesthetic appearance of the vehicle via the curved window panel.

Claims 13, 18, 22 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Basson et al. in view of Renner et al. as applied to claims 10, 12, 14,

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15, 17, 19, 23-25, 27 and 28 above, and further in view of Finch et al. Finch et al. disclose a vehicle door comprising a body of foam 11 for side impact protection.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Basson et al., as modified above, with a body of foam, as taught by Finch et al., to attenuate the forces generated during side impacts.

### Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed March 9, 2004 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

#### Conclusion

#### THIS ACTION IS NOT MADE FINAL.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is 703-305-3979. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on 703-308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gregory J. Strimbu

Primary Examiner Art Unit 3634

May 25, 2004